

# FERC Relicensing: Joint Meeting

## Kankakee Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. P-8632

May 3, 2023



# Agenda

- Attendance (Sign-In Sheet)
- Safety Moment
- Introductions
- Kankakee River & Surroundings
- Kankakee Hydroelectric Project
- Project Boundary, Photographs, Operations
- TLP & Key Milestone Dates
- Consultation to Date
- Preliminary 2023 Study Plans
- Existing Information, Project Impacts, Proposed PME Measures
- City of Kankakee FERC Relicensing Website
- Questions

# Safety Moment



- Take a boating safety course.
- Check equipment.
- Make a float plan.
- Wear a life jacket.
- Use an engine cut-off device.
- Watch the weather.
- Pay attention.
- Know where you're going.
- Travel at safe speeds.
- Never boat under the influence.
- Keep in touch.

# Introductions

## *City of Kankakee*

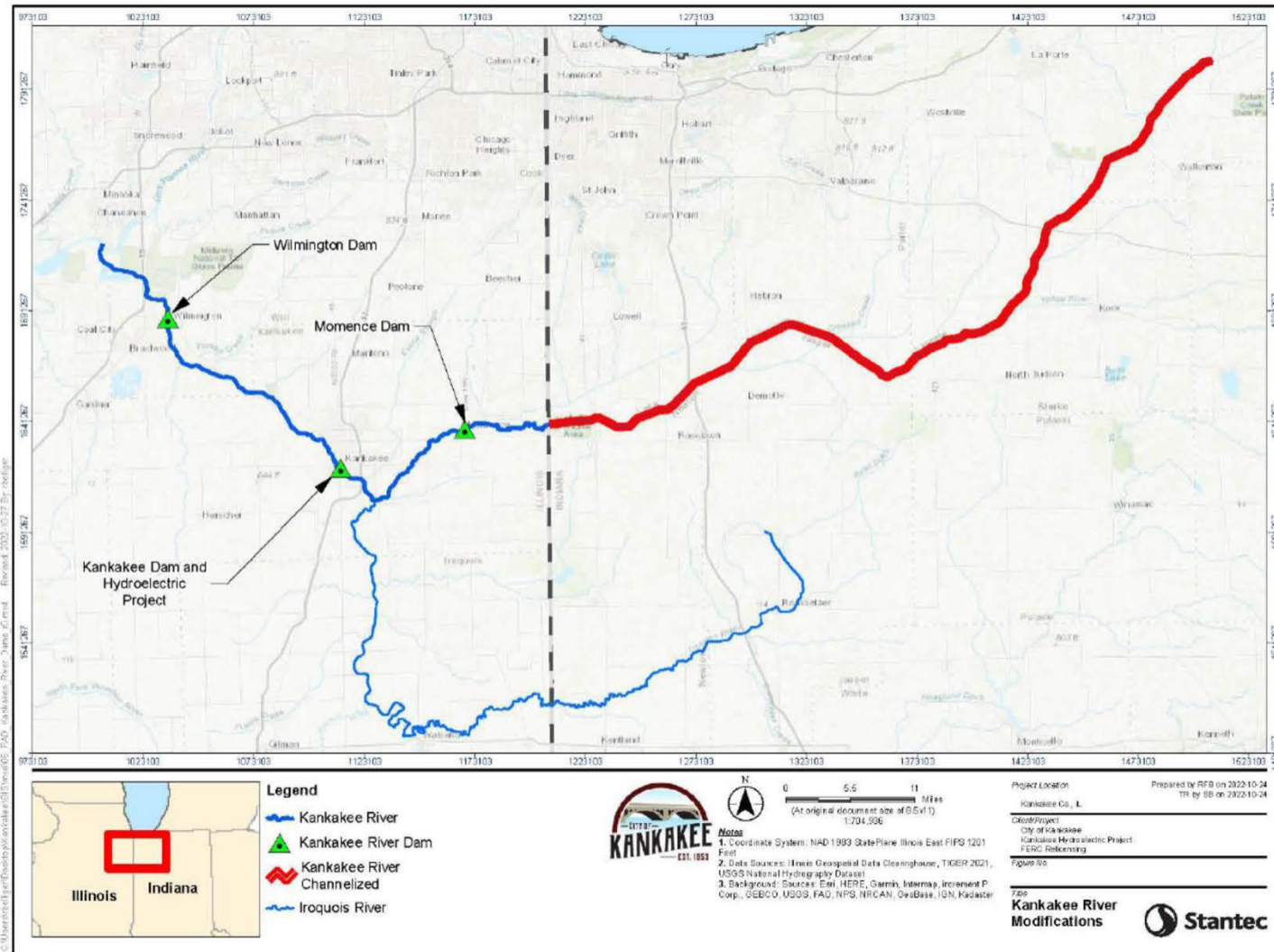
**Zachary Newton – Manager of Sewer Services**



**Kirby Gilbert – Principal Hydropower Planner**

**Steven Bedross – Sr. Environmental Planner, Chicago**

# Kankakee River





# Kankakee Dam



# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project History

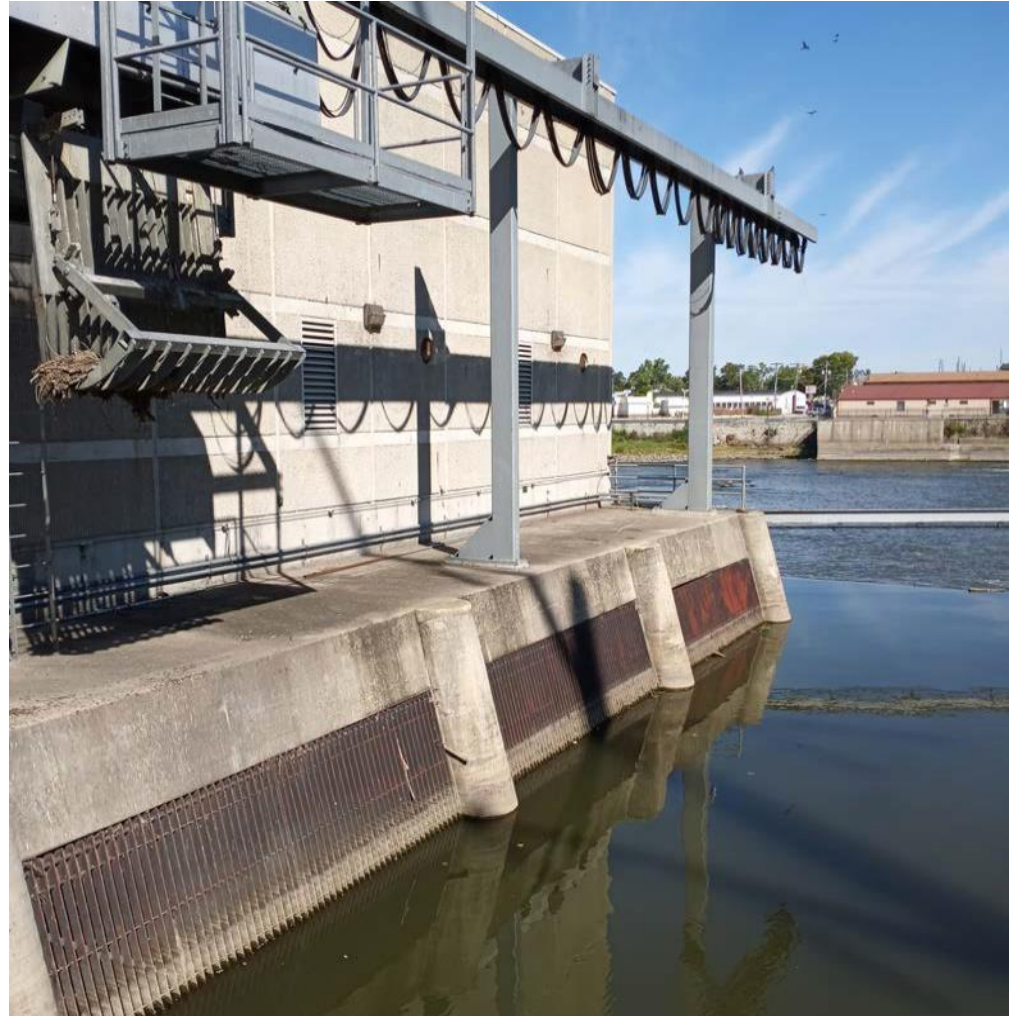


- FERC License  
Issued May 27, 1988
- Commercial  
Operation April 1991
- As-Built  
Transmission Line  
Amendment to  
FERC License 1993
- FERC License  
Expires April 30,  
2028



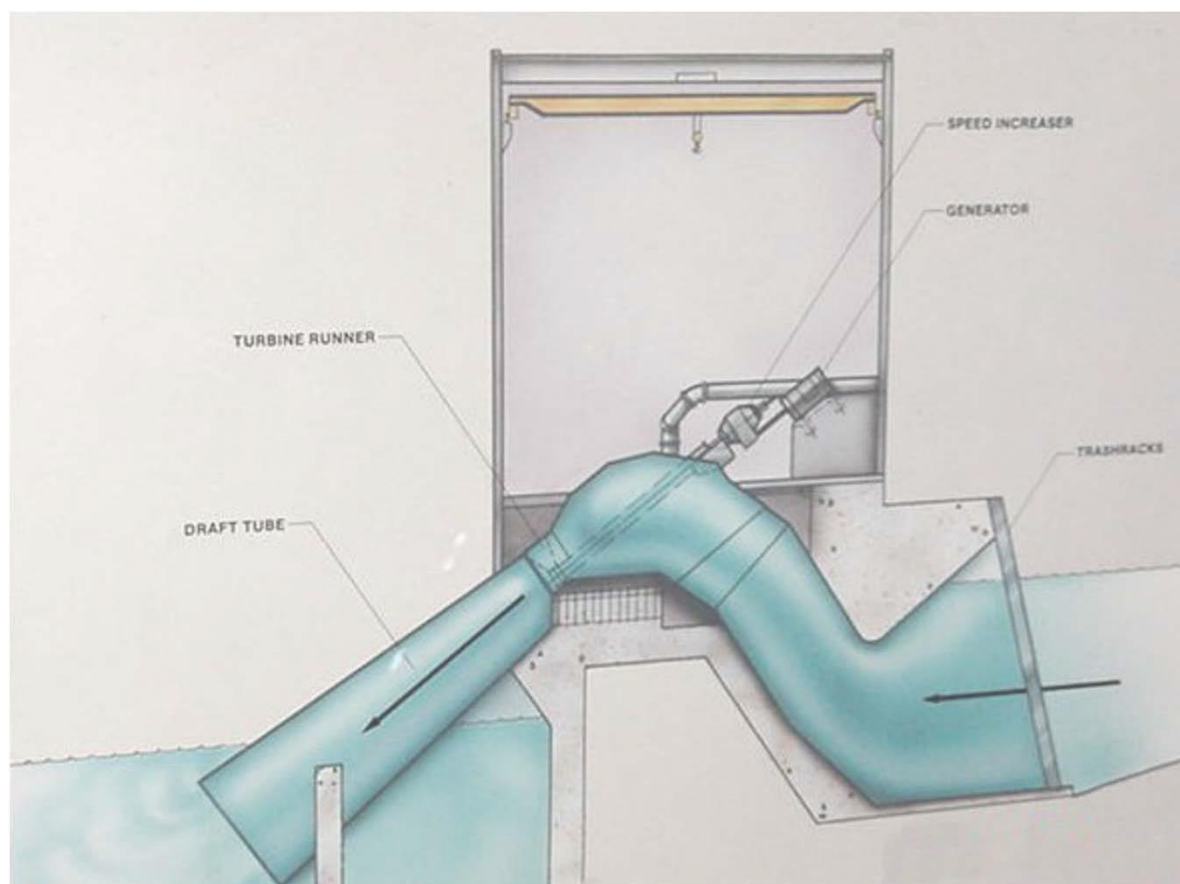
# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project Facilities

- Intake Channel approximately 100 feet long by 100 feet wide
- Concrete Powerhouse (103 feet long by 40 feet wide) with 3 Turbine/Generators (0.4 MW each)
- Tailrace Channel approximately 60 feet long by 85 feet wide
- Transformer adjacent to Powerhouse
- 2.4-Mile-Long, Single-Circuit 12.5 kV Transmission Line (1.5 Miles Buried [Including Bridge Xing in Conduit] and 0.9 Mile Overhead)



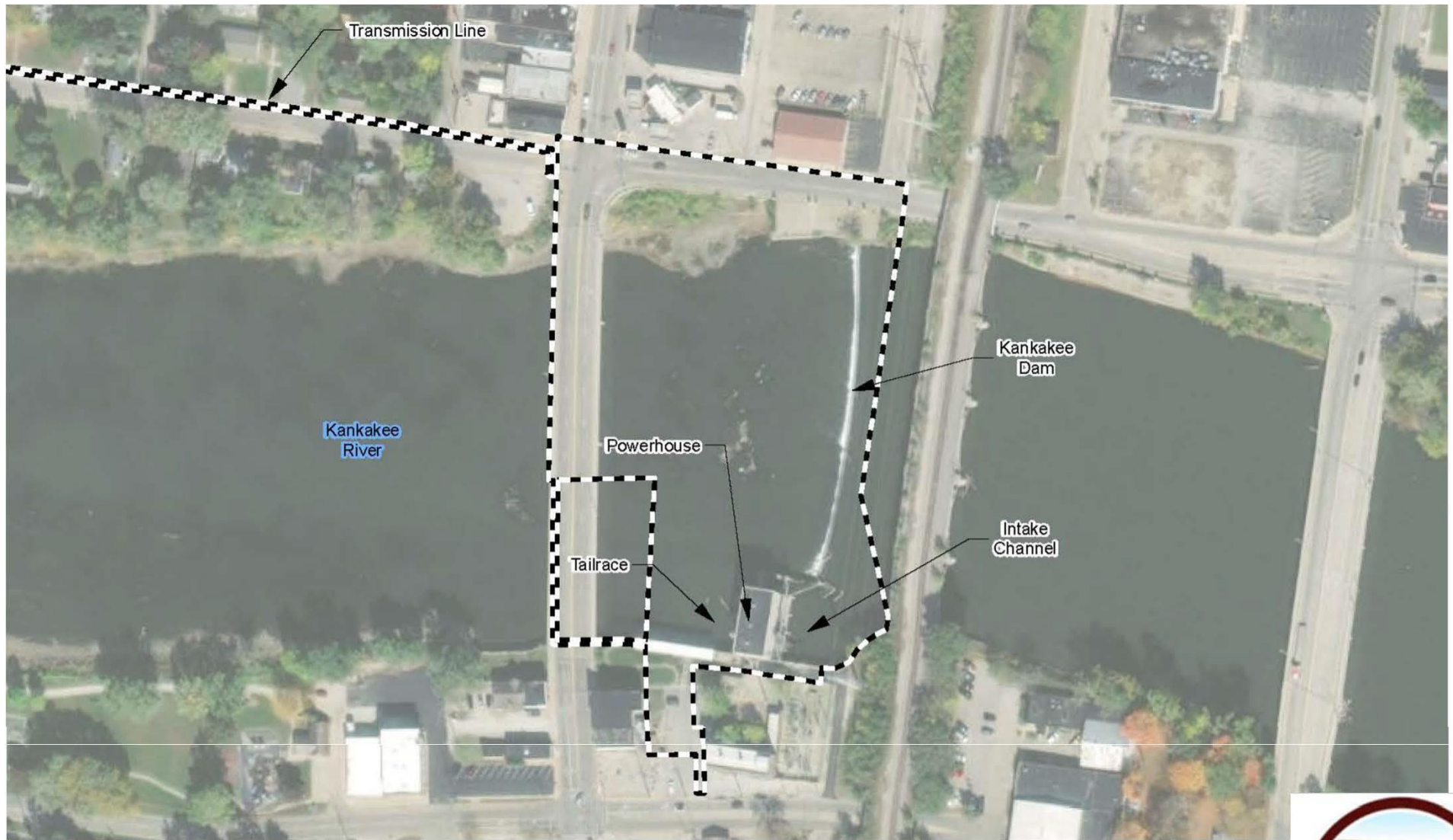


# Slant Axis, Semi-Kaplan Siphon Turbines with Speed Increaseers “Hydrolux” Induction Generators



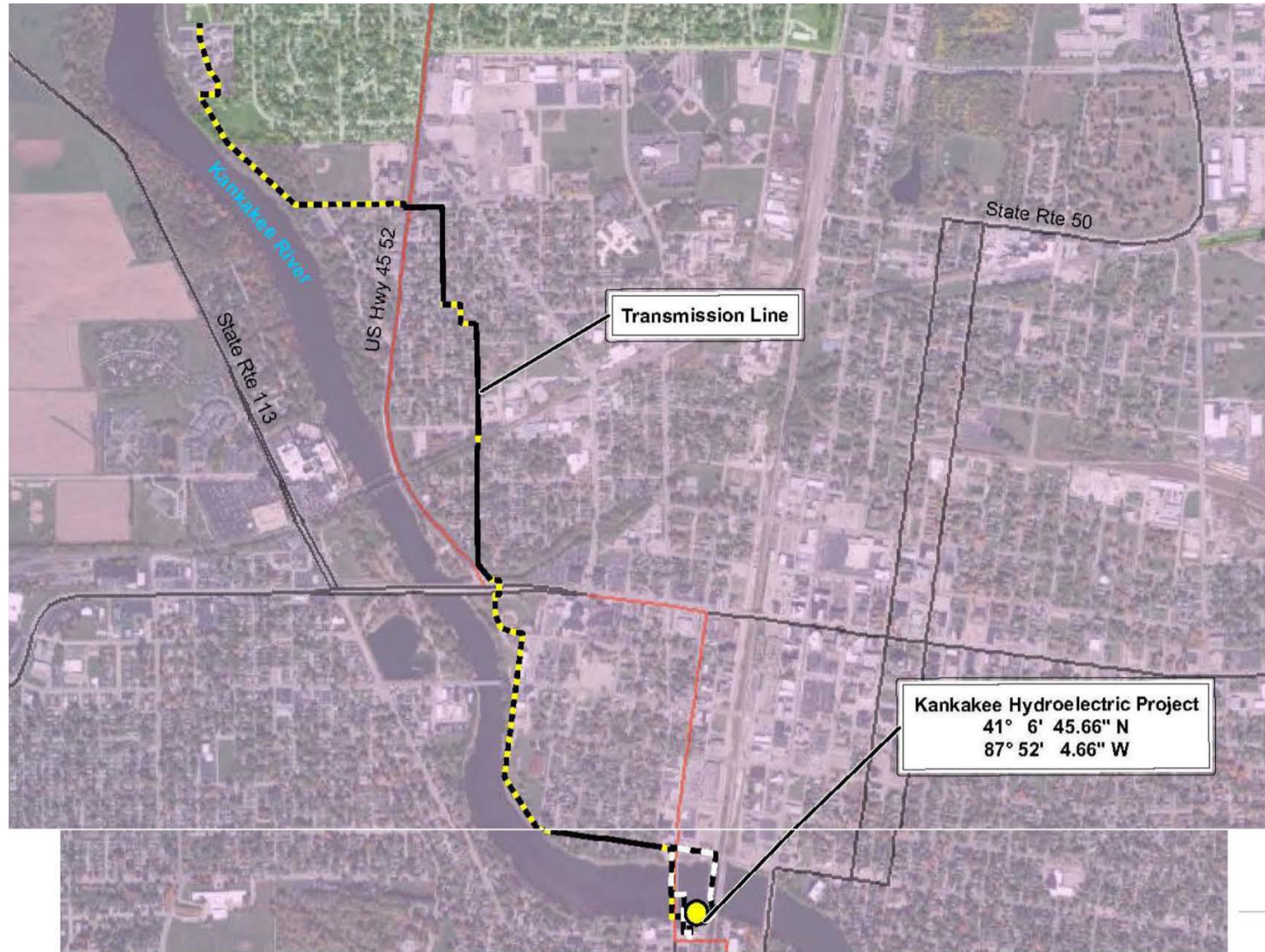
- 10-Foot Design Head
- 130 RPM (Speed Increaser Input); 720 RPM (Speed Increaser Output)
- Unit Hydraulic Capacity: 300 CFS Min; 2,000 CFS Max
- Turbines/Generators to be Repaired or Replaced in 2024-2025

# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project Project Boundaries





# Greenup Hydroelectric Project Project Boundaries





# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project Photographs



ComEd Substation  
Adjacent to Powerhouse  
Looking South



Powerhouse Entrance Road, Looking North



Powerhouse Intake Area  
Looking North

# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project Photographs



Project Fishing  
& Viewing Platform  
Looking North



Project Fishing & Viewing Platform, Looking Northwest



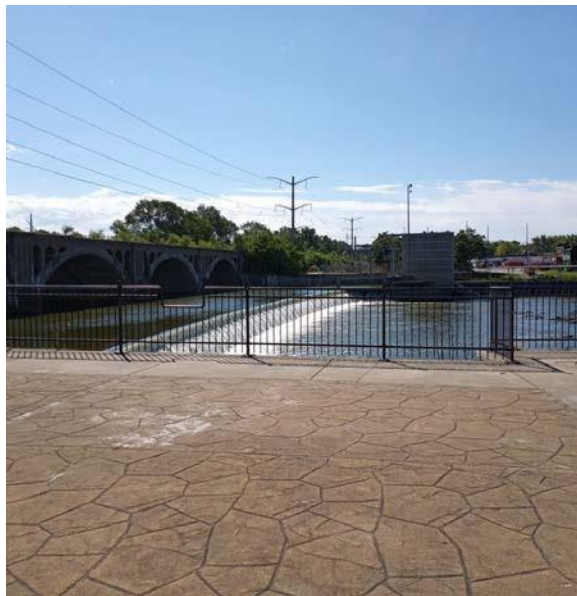
Project Fishing  
& Viewing Platform  
Looking East



# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project Photographs



South McMullen Drive Bridge  
(t-line attached in conduit)  
Looking Northwest



North Abutment of Kankakee Dam, Looking South



Transmission Line on West River  
Street near South 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Looking West



# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project Photographs



Transmission Line (on Right)  
Looking North in Alley between 8<sup>th</sup>  
Avenue and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue



KRMA Wastewater Treatment  
Plant (T-Line Terminates)



La Vasseur Park (T-Line runs Underground through Park)

# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project Operations

- Run-of-River Mode in Coordination with Illinois DNR (Existing FERC License Article 401).
- Licensee operates Inflatable Rubber Dam (24 Inches High When Fully Inflated) atop the Kankakee Dam. Rubber Dam allows Licensee to Vary the Surface Elevation of the Reservoir.
- Rubber Dam Fully Inflated During Normal Project Operation and a 500 CFS Min Flow (or Inflow, if Less) Maintained over Kankakee Dam (Existing License Article 402) to Protect Fishery Resources in the Kankakee River.
- Turbines/Generators to be Repaired or Replaced in 2024-2025.

# FERC Process – TLP & Key Milestones

- File Newspaper Notice of PAD Filing – January 21, 2023
- File NOI, PAD, TLP Request & Non-Federal Representative Designation Request – January 27, 2023
- FERC Approves Use of TLP – March 7, 2023
- **Host Joint Agency Meetings & Site Visit – May 3, 2023**
- Stakeholder Comments on PAD & Study Requests – July 1, 2023
- Prepare Final Study Plans - 2023
- Complete Studies and Prepare Reports – 2023/2024
- File DLA - 2025
- Stakeholder Comments on DLA - 2025
- File FLA and Section 401 (Water Quality Certification) Application - 2026
- File Newspaper Notice of FLA Filing - 2026
- FERC Processes FLA – 2026/2027/2028
- FERC Issues New License - 2028



# Kankakee Hydroelectric Project Consultation to Date

- Pre-PAD Questionnaire (September 2022) Sent to 9 Potential Stakeholders: USACE, USFWS, ACHP, IDNR Natural Heritage, IHPA, IDOT, IEPA, Kankakee Co Planning Dept, and KRMA
- 2 Responses: ACHP, IHPA
- PAD (January 27, 2023)
- **Joint Meetings and Site Visit (May 3, 2023)**

**Kankakee Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 8632  
FERC Relicensing - Pre-Application Document Information Questionnaire**

The City of Kankakee, Illinois (City), is the Licensee of the Kankakee Hydroelectric Project (Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) No. 8632), located along the Kankakee River in Kankakee County, Illinois (see attached map). The Licensee, with assistance from Stantec, is preparing a Pre-Application Document (PAD) that provides FERC and other entities with existing, relevant, and reasonably available information pertaining to the Project.

The current FERC License for the Project expires on April 30, 2028. The Licensee must notify FERC of its intent to file a new license application for the Project, including a PAD, on or before April 30, 2023.

This FERC Relicensing PAD Information Questionnaire will be used to help identify issues and related information needs regarding relicensing of the Project, and to develop preliminary study plans. Information gathered for the PAD will be used throughout the relicensing process to prepare documents analyzing the effects of FERC relicensing on the Project area and surroundings.

Your organization has been identified as a possible source of information for the PAD. To allow information to be included in the PAD, the Licensee requests that you complete the following Questionnaire to the best of your ability. Please return the completed Questionnaire to Stantec's Rick Bolliger (email: [rick.bolliger@stantec.com](mailto:rick.bolliger@stantec.com)) within 30 days, if possible.

Comments and/or questions regarding this Questionnaire may be sent to Stantec's Rick Bolliger (email: [rick.bolliger@stantec.com](mailto:rick.bolliger@stantec.com); phone: 312-831-3070).

The City of Kankakee respectfully request the following:

Information about person completing the questionnaire:

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Do you or your organization know of existing, relevant, and reasonably available information that describes the existing project environment or known effects of the Kankakee Hydroelectric Project?

☐ Yes (if yes, please complete 1a through 1f) ☐ No, (if no, please go to 2)

a. If yes, please check the box(es) to indicate the specific resource area(s) that the information relates to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Geology and soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation and land use
<input type="checkbox"/> Water resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and aquatic resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife and botanical resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Socio-economic resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, riparian, and littoral habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Rare, threatened, and endangered species	<input type="checkbox"/> Other resources information

Page 1

# Existing Relicensing Information (See PAD)

- Kankakee County Soil Survey
- USGS Gage Flow Data and National Hydrography Dataset
- Kankakee River Yesterday and Today
- About the Kankakee River
- Kankakee Watershed Assessment for Water Supply
- Source Water Assessment: Aqua Illinois – Kankakee
- TMDL for the Kankakee/Iroquois Watershed
- City of Kankakee Water Quality Monitoring Data (MS4)
- Kankakee River Fishery Fact Sheet
- Fishing the Kankakee and the Iroquois
- Kankakee River Basin Surveys (IDNR, IEPA, INHS)
- USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC)
- Checklist of Illinois Endangered and Threatened Species
- Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserve District Site Locations
- Kankakee Valley Park District Parks and Facilities
- Illinois State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Kankakee County Greenways and Trail Plan
- Kankakee River Water Trail Plan
- Kankakee Riverwalk Master Plan
- 2030 Kankakee County Comprehensive Plan
- Riverfront TIF Redevelopment Plan and Program
- National Land Cover Database
- National Historic District Evaluation Forms (State Hospital, Riverview, Downtown)
- Community Health Status Assessment: Kankakee County
- American Community Survey (US Census Bureau)

# Project Impacts (See PAD)

- Turbine-generator units currently out of service. Plan to put back into service 2024-2025.
- Continued ROR operations and minimum flow requirements minimize aquatic (and visual resource) impacts.
- Proposed overhead transmission line to Stone Street Wastewater Lift Station (600 feet through residential front yards).
- Lands within Project boundary are highly urbanized.
- Tree clearing in winter to avoid roosting bats.
- Continued O&M of Project tailrace fishing and viewing area.
- Continued compliance with IHPA (SHPO) Programmatic Agreement.
- Power used to offset electricity costs related to KRMA WWTP.



# Proposed 2023 Relicensing Studies – Preliminary (see PAD)

- Geology & Soils
- *Water Quantity, Use & Quality*
- Fisheries
- Mussels & Other Aquatic Species
- Wetlands, Riparian & Littoral Habitat
- RTE Species
- **Recreation**
- Land Use
- **Historical, Archaeological, and Cultural Resources**
- Tribal Resources
- **Socioeconomic Resources**

**Bold** = Proposed 2023 Study; *Italics* = Proposed After Project is Operational Again; For Others: Existing Information is Believed Adequate for FERC Relicensing

# Proposed 2023 Relicensing Studies – Preliminary (see PAD)

## Recreation

- Facilities inventory & condition (including accessibility) assessment in summer 2023, along with stakeholder & agency interviews.
- Information collected above to inform recreation demand & need study in fall 2023.
- Issues (if any), along with plan for maintaining and operating the existing facility, will be addressed in a Recreation Management Plan to be prepared as part of FERC relicensing.
- Use monitoring and reporting (to be performed after repair or replacement of the turbines-generators) methods will also be included in this Recreation Management Plan.

# Proposed 2023 Relicensing Studies – Preliminary (see PAD)

## **Historical, Archaeological, & Cultural Resources**

- FERC-required (Section 106) consultation with IL SHPO & other parties.
- Phase 1A (literature and records search) cultural resources survey in summer 2023 within Area of Potential Effect (APE, proposed as FERC Project boundary).
- Phase 1B (limited fieldwork) cultural resources survey in summer 2023, only if needed based on results of Phase 1A.
- Consult with IL SHPO and Tribes, as needed.



# Proposed 2023 Relicensing Studies – Preliminary (see PAD)

## Socioeconomic Resources

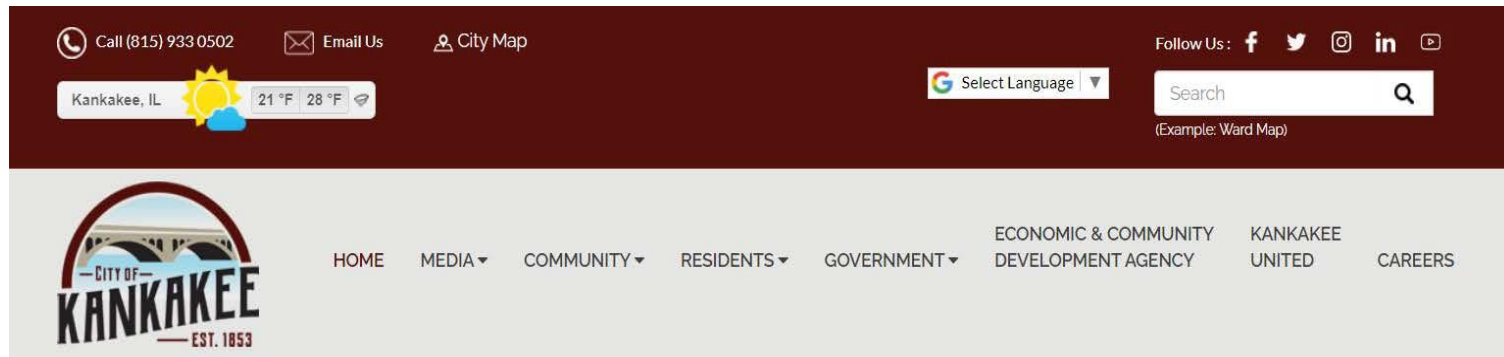
- Table of racial, ethnic, and poverty statistics for state, county, and census block groups within the geographic scope of analysis (i.e., areas within one mile of the existing Project boundary), using information from the US Census Bureau's most recently available American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.
- identify environmental justice populations by block group, using the data obtained above, by applying methods included in US EPA's Promising Practices for Environmental Justice (EJ) Methodologies in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Reviews (2016).
- If needed, mitigation measures to avoid and/or minimize Project effects on environmental justice communities will be proposed
- Schools, hospitals, and other sensitive receptors in the geographic scope of analysis will be mapped and any Project-related effects on these receptors described.

# Proposed PME's (See PAD)

- Consistent with Article 403 of the existing FERC license, the Licensee proposes to file an erosion control plan as it relates to construction activity at the project.
- Consistent with Article 401 of the existing FERC license, the Licensee proposes to operate the project in a run-of-river mode.
- Consistent with Article 402 of the existing FERC license, the Licensee proposes to release a minimum flow of 500 cfs, or inflow, whichever is less, from the project reservoir.
- Prepare and implement a Water Quality Monitoring Plan.
- City arborist will determine trees to be removed and replaced as part of the proposed Stone Street transmission line extension.
- The Licensee proposes to implement a bat protection measure (tree clearing along the existing and proposed transmission line route under the supervision of City arborist only during winter months to avoid potential impacts on roosting bats).
- Prepare and implement Recreation Management Plan.
- Consistent with Article 406 of the existing FERC license, the Licensee proposes to comply with the Programmatic Agreement entered with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

# Kankakee FERC Relicensing Public Website

(<https://citykankakee-il.gov/departments/esu-dpw/notice-of-intent.php>)



## Hydroelectric Plant FERC Relicensing

### Notice Of Intent (NOI) And Pre Application Document

- Notice of Intent
- Notice of Intent Letter
- Pre Application Document

### Contact Us

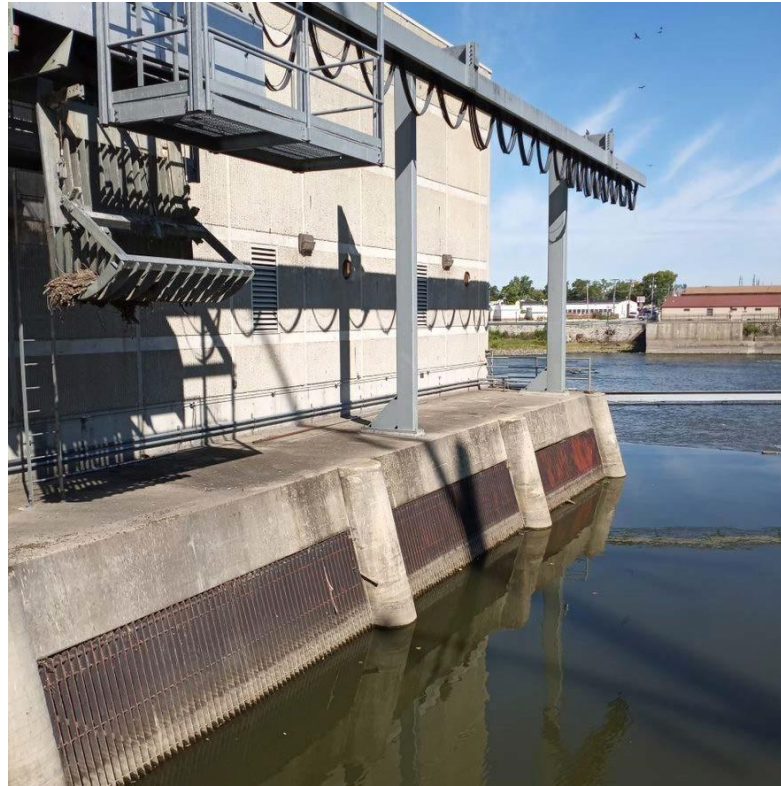
### Contact Us

Reminder: Written Comments on PAD and Study Requests  
Due to **FERC** on or Before **June 1, 2023**



# Kankakee FERC Relicensing

## Questions & Comments?



Zachary Newton – City of Kankakee  
Email: [zjnewton@citykankakee-il.gov](mailto:zjnewton@citykankakee-il.gov)

**Thank You! We Look Forward to Working with You...**